

USSN 09/964,472

Art Unit: 2812

Remarks

By their amendments the applicants have cancelled claim 19. New claim 20 has been added. Claim 20 recites the sub-steps set out in the table forming part of former claim 19 in explicit form in a single sentence. It is believed new claim 20 should be acceptable. Claim 11 has been corrected. It should have included mask step 8 since it reads onto the embodiment of Figure 13).

With regard to the election of species, the applicant hereby elects the species of Figure 3, which includes the mask step 8 without prejudice to the right to pursue non-elected claims in a divisional application. Claims 1, claim 2 (Figure 3), claim 4 (Figure 5), claim 6 (Figure 7), claim 8 (Figure 9), claim 11 (Figure 13), claim 12 (Figure 14), claim 15 (Figure 16), claim 17 (Figure 18), and claim 20 are readable on the species of Figure 3..

It is believed that claim 20 is generic for the reasons analogous to the reasons claim 1 is generic. Claim 20 recites the basic set of steps from which the steps of the selected species are chosen, but specifies more particularly the sub-steps associated with each principal mask step. Each of the remaining elected claims include the mask step 8.

It is believed that this application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted

Marks & Clerk

P.O.Box 957, Station B

Ottawa, Ontario

Canada K1P 5S7

(613) 236-9561

BY: 

Richard J. Mitchell

Reg. No. 34519

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Marked Up Version Showing Amendments

11(Amended). A process as claimed in claim 1, comprising mask steps 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 98, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16.

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